



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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PRESS RELEASE

Tyler's Texas State Veterans Home renamed

Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home now, VLB votes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AUSTIN — The Texas Veterans Land Board voted unanimously today to rename Tyler's Texas State Veterans Home the Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home.

The board voted on the change - dropping one of the previous namesakes, Tyler resident Samuel M. Garrison - after learning accounts of his military record had been embellished in the local media for years. While he served honorably, Garrison's actual level of service did not rise to the same level of service distinction as the other two Medal Of Honor recipients

The Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home is a one-of-a-kind long-term care facility in Tyler, named after local heroes.

Watkins, a master sergeant, served in the U.S. Army, Company H, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for action near Yongsan, Korea in 1950. He was awarded the Bronze Star during World War II for action during the Guadalcanal campaign. His home of record and burial is Gladewater, Texas.

Logan, a technical sergeant, served in the Army, 36th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on September 9, 1943 in the vicinity of Salerno, Italy. In addition to receiving the Distinguished Service Cross, he was the first recipient to receive the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor. Logan lived in Kilgore prior to his death in 1999 and is buried at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

Texas State Veterans Homes offer a broad spectrum of health care services, comprehensive rehabilitation programs, special diets, recreational activities, social services, libraries, and certified, secure Alzheimer's units, each with its own, secured courtyard.

For additional information on Texas State Veterans Homes, please call 1-800 VETS (8387) or visit the VLB website at www.texasveterans.com . Or, find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TXVLB> .

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